



2017 Annual Report to Taxpayers



A Message from Council

It's hard to believe that another year has passed since our last update to taxpayers. We are once again proud to produce this report for our residents and businesses, both current and prospective. The report was started as a way to better communicate to you about where your property tax dollars are spent, and about the wide variety of complex programs and services we are expected to offer.

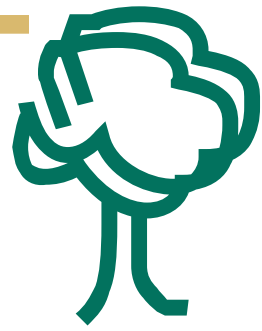
North Dundas is not unique in facing the many challenges of living in rural Ontario today. However, we continue to be proud of the way our Council and staff team work together to address them. We have become leaders in how we've worked to overcome those challenges and to create opportunity.

While other small-town communities have seen declining populations, North Dundas and SDG are growing in both population and number of households. That trend is projected to continue. When average family incomes have been stagnant for a decade, our median family income in North Dundas increased by an impressive 18% between 2006-2016.

As many businesses have struggled in rural Ontario in recent years, we continue to welcome new small and medium-sized

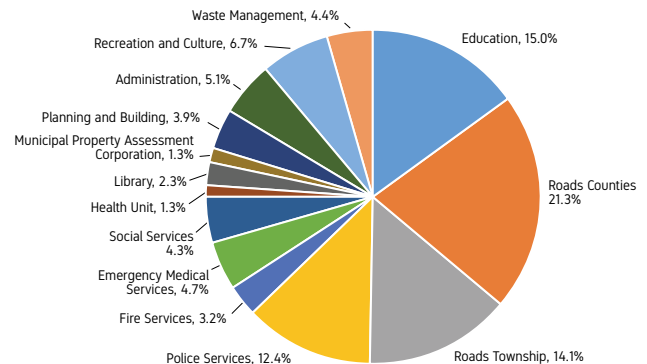
businesses every month. We have a good working relationship with local businesses and organizations, and we continue to think "outside the box" as this report demonstrates.

We hope you find this report educational and it reinforces your sense of pride in our great community. Council is proud to represent you and be your voice in local government. Our doors are always open for new businesses and residents - so join us and spread the word!



2017 Budget: Fiscally Responsible and Focused on Meeting the Community's Needs

- » In 2017, the municipal tax rate was decreased 7.2% from the previous year, resulting in a tax dollar increase that was less than the cost of living for North Dundas' portion of the tax bill for most residential taxpayers.
- » The Township generated a surplus of \$307,000 in 2016; this amount was used in 2017 to complete additional road work, perform necessary repairs to the Morewood Community Center, support Canada 150 projects and provide additional funding to fire services and recreation capital projects.
- » New development generated approximately \$90,000 in additional tax revenue in 2017.
- » More than 1/3 of the property tax bill is effectively set or mandated by the Province.
- » Education taxes are set by the Province and collected and remitted by the Municipality.
- » Thanks to the Mountain Station Firefighters and Ladies Auxiliary for their fundraising efforts for a new truck for the Mountain Fire Station in 2017.



Celebrating Canada's 150th

In celebration of Canada's 150th, Council established the Canada 150 Beautification Grant. This fund provided a total of \$19,724.55 to 7 community organizations to assist with beautification projects including flags in Winchester and Morewood, landscaping at the South Mountain Agricultural Hall and metal silhouette decorations in Marionville and Chesterville.

The **Meet Me On Main Street** event series was held from July 5th to August 2nd in celebration of Canada's 150th and our community; it was a huge success for all residents, guests and businesses that participated in the five events.

- » Approximately 3,000 people participated, leading to the conclusion to bring it back for summer 2018!
- » Food vendors sold approximately \$24,421 including: 324 hot dogs, 1,157 beef on a bun, 589 slices of pizza, 350 sausages and 1,035 poutine.

> Meet Me On Main Street photos courtesy of "Captured By Susan"





Supporting North Dundas Businesses

- » The North Dundas Community Improvement Plan (CIP) helps business owners improve their businesses by offering commercial building owners and tenants up to: a \$4,000 façade grant, \$1,000 signage and awning grant and \$10,000 commercial improvement loan. In the 5 years since inception of the CIP in 2013, \$97,258 in grants and \$167,052 in loans have helped North Dundas businesses and generated \$964,488 in investment.
- » We are pleased to announce that in 2018 a refreshed Community Improvement Plan will be available for businesses that will support additional projects.
- » In May, The North Dundas Chamber of Commerce and the Township hosted the first annual Local Business Expo that showcased over 80 businesses at the Joel Steele Community Center and drew over 800 visitors to the event.
- » The Township hosts a number of networking events to help strengthen the North Dundas business community, including Business Breakfasts, a Wine and Cheese Night, as well as the Mayor's Community Breakfast.
- » The Township also partners with the Business Enterprise Centre to provide free, confidential business consultations for new or existing business owners.

Strong Growth and Record New Business Openings

11 new business openings occurred in 2017 including 7 within 7 weeks



Welcome to the following businesses: Winchester Kennels, Pharmasave, Rob & Sons Grill, Samantha's Emporium, Applestock Orchards, Main Street Clothing's second location, North

Dundas Business Centre, Dollarama, Winchester Bowling and Sutton's Restaurant & Café, Co-operators Insurance's new location and Pet Valu's new location.

Planning and Building by the Numbers 2016

Building Permits Issued		147
New Homes		33
Declared Value of Construction		\$19,099,528
New Homes	\$9,124,567	
New Industrial/Commercial Development	\$5,170,200	
New Agricultural Development	\$4,774,000	
Building Permit Fees		\$92,449.76
Development Charges Collected		\$124,182.00



Continued Focus on Road Improvements and Infrastructure

Roads and supporting infrastructure improvements continued in 2016:

- » Base preparation on Armstrong, French Settlement, Merkley and Harmony roads totalling 10 km which were then surface treated in 2017.
- » Double surface treatment of Spruit Rd and Rodney Lane of approximately 6 km.
- » 720 meters of sidewalk was replaced.
- » Asphalt resurfacing of Merkley Place, Hummel St, Winchester Queen St, Kelso St and part of Kerrs Ridge Rd totalling 1.6 km.

For 2017, the following projects are underway or complete:

- » 2.8 km of Cameron Rd was pulverized and resurfaced with a double surface treatment.
- » 2.2 km of existing asphalt was resurfaced.
- » 625 meters of sidewalk was replaced.
- » A rubber tire excavator was purchased to increase the amount of brushing and ditching that could be completed annually.
- » 2 large road culverts were replaced on Connaught Rd.

In addition, the United Counties of Stormont, Dundas Glengarry continues to invest in North Dundas.

LOCATION	COUNTY ROAD(S)	2016(\$)	2017(\$)
Chesterville	SDG 7, 37 design	\$520,000	\$60,00
Morewood	SDG 32 & bridge	\$714,000	\$200,000
Mountain	SDG 1		\$602,000
South Mountain	SDG 1, 16		\$817,000
Marionville	SDG 7 bridge design		\$60,000

Upgrades to Recreation and Culture Facilities

» Thanks to the North Dundas High School welding class for fabricating 20 mesh cages for the new light fixtures at the Chesterville waterfront. Partnering on initiatives such as these, give our students trades experience, helps to foster and encourage their sense of pride in their community, and provides quality fixtures at reduced cost for our facilities. We look forward to their assistance with additional projects.



» Lighting fixtures above both the Chesterville & Joel Steele Arena slabs were changed from metal halide to LED, in an effort to decrease hydro consumption, while providing better lighting for users.

» Extensive upgrades to the Morewood Community Hall included: floor and stage resurfacing, interior lighting, ceiling tiles, a new bar and bar cooler,

replacement of the rink posts and lights, a large portion of the community hall's metal siding, 4 exterior doors, the roof system, the rink house flooring, and the roof-top HVAC system at a total cost of \$139,330. A special thanks to the volunteers, suppliers and contractors who donated time and/or materials to help make the renovation possible!



- » Improvements at the Joel Steele Community Hall included: exterior windows, new curtains, window and door trim, floor resurfacing and washroom lighting at a total cost of \$33,680.
- » The new Visitor Centre was opened at the Historic SDG Jail. The jail is a key local attraction and regular tour hours will begin again in May 2018; over the winter, group bookings are available by request by contacting jail@sdgcounties.ca.

Did You Know?

www.northdundas.com



Ice time can be booked for an hour or on a weekly or seasonal basis. Consider booking ice time for your next birthday party, family get together or office Christmas party.



The cost of the policing contract in SDG is \$339 per household. The OPP responded to over 3,500 calls in North Dundas in 2016.



The Hazardous Waste Facility collected over 19,166 kilograms of hazardous waste from the residents of Dundas County including:

- » 9,969 litres of used oil
- » 7.18 MT of electronics
- » 94 (20 lb) propane tanks



In 2016 the SDG County Library System had 123,383 visitors, 651,800 virtual visitors and 3,318 visitors at community events. 243,548 items were checked out in the year.



The Township is committed to diversion from its landfill. In 2016, the Township recycled over **2,551 tires** and the Blue Box recycling facility shipped over **650 MT** of recyclables to market.

Recycling helps us save money and extends the life of our landfill.